GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:173
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
PRODUCTION OF PALM OIL SEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps for increasing the production and productivity of pulses and oilseeds including palm oil in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the strategy adopted by the Government to face the challenge of acute shortage of pulses and oilseeds in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) for increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds, pulses and oilpalm in the country. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for critical inputs such as quality seeds, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, Integrated Pest Management Technology, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of Bio-fertilizers, gypsum/pyrite liming/dolomite, sprinkler sets, water carrying pipes etc. to encourage farmers to cultivate oilseeds and pulses. In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR). For the development of Oil Palm, financial assistance is provided for planting material, cultivation cost, drip irrigation, diesel pump sets etc. under ISOPOM.

(c): To address the acute shortage of oilseeds and pulses in the country, a special plan for increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses has been implemented under ISOPOM during kharif-2007 in major oilseeds and pulses growing states. Besides, it is envisaged to launch National Food Security Mission (NFSM) comprising wheat, rice and pulses during XI Plan to enhance the production and productivity of these crops and make the country self-sufficient in food grains. NFSM-Pulses is proposed to be implemented in 168 districts in 14 states.